

Officials seek emergency funding for River Road

News Herald 8-19-11

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The Lake County Engineer's Office plans to make an application to the Ohio Public Works Commission to repair the River Road culvert failure just south of the Route 84 intersection in Perry Township.

It will keep the road closed for at least a month.

Heavy rains Sunday night cause the road, culvert and embankment to fail. During the closure, the posted detour is Route 84 and Webb Road.

Lake County commissioners conducted a rare emergency meeting Wednesday afternoon to pass a resolution to authorize the Engineer's Office to make an application to

Documents online

Read the commissioners' resolution at
www.News-Herald.com



OPWC.

The meeting was conducted on an emergency basis because commissioners do not have a regular meeting scheduled until next week.

Because so much water fell within a short period of time, it caused the failure of the outlet end of the pipe and led to the collapse of the culvert on Monday.

"We had an extreme rain event over in that part of the county, much higher than what I

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think was reported on average across the region," said Bridge Engineer Kirk Dimmick.

"We don't have any official values, but it overtopped the road just near Route 84. There is a drainage ditch that drains some nursery property on the south side of Route 84 in Perry Township."

Because of the event, Dimmick said there is a 25-foot gap in the road right now with no pavement.

There also is a large gas line and an 8-inch water line in that crossing that were compromised, he said.

Gas lines have been shut off and most of the water lines in that area have been shut off.

"We have to build a new culvert on top of those utilities," Dimmick said. "It's a very deep culvert, 15 feet under the surface is where the water flows."

The Engineer's Office plans to work closely with the Ohio Public Works Commission to be eligible for emergency funds, he said. The amount sought remains undetermined.

"We have no real numbers to publish, we're still working on the estimates," Dimmick said. "We don't want to leave anything out."

If the Engineer's Office receives emergency funding, the OPWC likely will require a local share, he said.